

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MARK



Anna Long

LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. LOVE ASHEVILLE.

Sunday, 17 May 2020, 10:00 AM

citychurchavl.org

CITY CHURCH

ASHEVILLE

“Much as we might lament them or rejoice in them, our visible circumstances are not the source of our optimism.”

– Dr. Jack Collins

“There are teachers who point to their teaching or show some particular way. In all of these, there emerges an instruction, a way of living. It is not Zoroaster to whom you turn. It is Zoroaster to whom you listen. It is not Buddha who delivers you; it is his Noble Truths that instruct you. It is not Mohammed who transforms you; it is the beauty of the Koran that woos you. By contrast, Jesus did not only teach or expound His message. He was identical with His message. ‘In Him,’ say the Scriptures, ‘dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily.’ He did not just proclaim the truth. He said, ‘I am the truth.’ He did not just show a way. He said, ‘I am the Way.’ He did not just open up vistas. He said, ‘I am the door.’ ‘I am the Good Shepherd.’ ‘I am the resurrection and the life.’ ‘I am the I AM.’ In Him is not just an offer of life’s bread. He is the bread. That is why being a Christian is not just a way of feeding and living. Following Christ begins with a way of relating and being.”

– Ravi Zacharias

“‘He gave the bread to his disciples’ – the imperfect tense denotes the continued action of giving the broken pieces to the disciples ... that the bread multiplied in the hands of Jesus. He continued to give out the broken pieces: yet always there was more to give out.”

– D. Edmond Hiebert

“If the only thing you have to offer is a broken heart, you offer a broken heart. So in a time of grief, the recognition that this is material for sacrifice has been a very great strength for me. Realizing that nothing I have, nothing I am will be refused on the part of Christ, I simply give it to Him as they gave Jesus the loaves and fish – with the same feeling of the disciples when they said, ‘What is the good of that for such a crowd?’ Naturally in almost anything I offer to Christ, my reaction would be, ‘What is the good of that?’ The point is, the use He makes of it is His blessing.”

– Elizabeth Elliot

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN

Come People of the Risen King

Words & Music: Keith & Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend | Copyright 2007 Capitalcmgpublishing

1. Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.
2. Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.
3. Come, young and old from every land -
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands -
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing -
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age:
“Our God is all in all”

Refrain:

Rejoice, Rejoice!
Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice;
O Church of Christ, rejoice!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 55:1-3

- Minister:** Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
- All:** **Come buy wine and milk without money and without price.**
- Minister:** Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
All: **and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**
- Minister:** Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.
All: **Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live.**

HYMN OF ADORATION

Come, O Come, Thou Holy Spirit

Words: Anonymous, Joachim Neander, Julie Melucci | Music: Julie Melucci ©2015 Julie Melucci Music (SESAC)

1. Come, O come Thou Holy Spirit
Light and life Thy grace imparts
Blessed Source of consolation
Guide our minds and fill our hearts
Grant my mind and my affections
Wisdom, counsel, purity
That I may be ever seeking
Only that which pleases Thee
2. Savior lead us to adore Thee
By the true and living way
Then with angel hosts before Thee
May we worship, love and praise
Dwell within us, precious Spirit
Where Thou art no ill can come
Bless us now through Jesus' merit
Reign in every heart and home

3. Holy Spirit, strong and mighty
Thou who makest all things new
Make Thy work within me perfect
Help me by Thy word so true
In Thy faith, O make me steadfast
Let not Satan, death or shame
Of my confidence deprive me
Lord, my refuge is Thy name

4. When my final hour approaches
Let my hopes grow yet more bright
Let Thy love which never fails me
Dissipate the gloom of night
From that height which knows no measure
Fairer far than voice can tell
In Thy glorious courts of heaven
There, redeemed by Christ, to dwell

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Various Passages

Minister: You are worthy O Lord, to receive blessing, and honor, and glory and power. For you have created all things, and for your pleasure and praise they are and were created. We worship you, the one who made heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them. You spoke, and that was it. You commanded, and it stood firm. You said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. You declared, 'Let the expanse of the skies come into being,' and so it was. You made all things very good, and they are maintained up to this day by your sovereign appointment. For everything in creation exists to serve you.

All: **The day is yours, the night is also yours. You established the sun and the moon. You are the one who determined all the boundaries of the earth. You made the seasons of summer and winter. Lord Christ, you sustain all things by your powerful word. In you all things hold together in harmony.**

(Rev. 4:11, 14:7; Ps. 33:9; Gen. 1:3, 6, 7, 31; Ps. 119:91; Ps. 74:16, 17; Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:17)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Pensive, Doubting, Fearful Heart

Words: John Newton, 1779, Music: Wendell Kimbrough, 2004 | © 2005 Red Mountain Music

1. Pensive, doubting, fearful heart,
Hear what Christ the Savior says;
Every word should joy impart,
Change thy mourning into praise.
Yes, He speaks and speaks to thee,
May He help thee to believe;
Then thou presently will see
Thou has little cause to grieve.

2. Fear thou not, nor be ashamed;
All thy sorrows soon shall end,
I, who heaven and earth have framed,
Am thy Husband and thy Friend;
I the High and Holy One,
Israel's God, by all adored,
As thy Savior will be known,
Thy Redeemer and thy Lord.

3. For a moment I withdrew,
And thy heart was filled with pain;
But my mercies I'll renew;
Thou shall soon rejoice again;
Though I seem to hide my face,
Very soon my wrath shall cease;
'Tis but for a moment's space,
Ending in eternal peace.

4. When my peaceful bow appears,
Painted on the watery cloud,
'Tis to dissipate thy fears,
Lest the earth should be o'erflowed.
'Tis an emblem too of grace,
Of my covenant love a sign.
Though the mountains leave their place,
Thou shalt be forever mine.

5. Though afflicted, tempest tossed,
Comfortless awhile thou art,
Do not think thou can be lost,
Thou art graven on my heart;
All thy wastes I will repair;
Thou shalt be rebuilt anew;
And in thee it shall appear
What the God of love can do.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Psalms 86:5

“Hope in the LORD from this time forth and forever more.”

CONFESSION OF SIN*

Minister: Father, we have not delighted in you as we ought.

We have not found you to be enough.

We find great delight in your creation and in the good gifts that you have given to us,
but we rarely spend time delighting in you.

We love and enjoy you when you give us what we want,

but we become anxious, fretful, and angry when life is hard

and you seem unwilling to rescue us from uncomfortable or painful circumstances.

All: **You have surrounded us daily with your goodness and mercy.
We should fill each day with praise, adoration, and thanksgiving to you,
but we are weak, selfish, and full of sin.**

**We love the gifts that you give us far more than we love you,
and resent you when you call us to suffer.**

**We get angry with you when you do not answer our prayers as we wish;
we wallow in our anxiety and fear that you will take away the good things in our lives
we love too much.**

**Forgive us, Lord, for doubting your love and goodness, and for finding joy and
contentment in our own abilities, relationships, and possessions instead of you alone.**

(You're invited to take a moment of silent confession.)

Minister: Father, it was Jesus who delighted in you above all else

and perfectly committed all his ways to your sovereign will.

We praise you that his flawless obedience is ours through faith,

and we are forever reconciled to you as your beloved children.

All: **We are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens,
wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.**

**Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good,
love what you love,**

and do what you command,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Peter 2:4

“Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.”

HYMN OF PARDONING GRACE

Laden with Guilt and Full of Fears

Words: Isaac Watts, Music: Sandra McCracken | ©2001 Same Old Dress Music (ASCAP)

Laden with guilt and full of fears,
I fly to Thee, my Lord,
And not a glimpse of hope appears,
But in Thy written Word
The volumes of my Father's grace
Does all my griefs assuage
Here I behold my Savior's face
In every page.

This is the field where, hidden, lies
The pearl of price unknown
That merchant is divinely wise
Who makes the pearl his own
Here consecrated water flows
To quench my thirst of sin
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,
No danger dwells within.

This is the judge that ends the strife,
Where wit and reason fail
My guide to everlasting life
Through all this gloomy vale
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

We encourage you to take 30 seconds to send a text or video message sharing the peace of Christ to others in City Church. Consider an exchange like this:

May the peace of Christ always be with you!

And also with you.

GLORIA PATRI

tune: Karl Digerness

Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Spirit, Three in One.
As it was in the beginning it will be forever. Amen.

Mark 8:1-13

1 In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, **2** “I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. **3** And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away.” **4** And his disciples answered him, “How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?” **5** And he asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven.” **6** And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. **7** And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. **8** And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. **9** And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. **10** And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. **12** And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, “Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation.” **13** And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Power of the Cross

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend | Copyright © 2005

Oh, to see the dawn
Of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men,
Torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

Chorus:

This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us;
Took the blame, bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain
Written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought,
Ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Now the daylight flees;
Now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two,
Dead are raised to life;
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry.

Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death;
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.

Final Chorus:

This, the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God—slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

SENDING HYMN

In Christ Alone

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend. Copyright © 2001 Kingsway

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

DISMISSAL & SENDING

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING :: WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 AM

Join us Wednesday mornings for an informal prayer meeting via Zoom. Email John Hopple (john@citychurchavl.org) for details on how to join the meeting via Zoom.

COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

From lost wages to lost jobs, the financial need of those within City Church is constantly evolving. In anticipation of increased financial needs created by this crisis, and with a desire to help carry the burdens of individuals and families within the church, we've created the "COVID-19 Relief Fund". As the hands and feet of the church body, we encourage you to give generously to the needs of others as you have opportunity! If you're interested in giving specifically to this fund, please text any dollar amount and the word **covid19** to **84321** (e.g. 100 covid19). Gifts will be distributed by the Session to meet the needs of those in distressed situations. Email John Hopple (john@citychurchavl.org) for more information and alternate ways to give to the fund.

Want to connect with City Church?

If you'd like to keep up with news, information, and events in the life of the church, please text the word **"visiting"** to **94000** and follow the prompts. We'll receive your basic contact information and keep you in the loop!

Need prayer?

We invite you to text your prayer requests to the elders and staff at **828.374.8883**. Unless otherwise specified by you, prayer requests will only be made known to the Session and staff of City Church.



Elders

Nat Belz (nat.belz@gmail.com)
Scott Bridges (engineer.bridges@gmail.com)

Staff

Rev. Duff James (duff@citychurchavl.org) :: Pastor
John Hopple (john@citychurchavl.org) :: Administration & Men's Discipleship
Kristi James (kristi@citychurchavl.org) :: Children's Programs & Women's Discipleship
Will Long (will@citychurchavl.org) :: Music Arts Director

Volunteer Coordinator

Amy Noll (acnoll89@gmail.com) :: Room Setup

Musicians

Will Long (will@citychurchavl.org) :: Guitar/Vocals/Director
Tyler Caruso :: Vocals
Ellen-Anne Harboe :: Vocals
Dean Peteet :: Bass
Amanda Johnson :: Fiddle/Vocals
Sheryl Olguin :: Guitar/ Vocals
Leon Olguin :: Keyboard/Vocals
Brandon Smith & Mark Iverson :: Sound Technicians

WANT TO SUPPORT CITY CHURCH FINANCIALLY?

We have several ways that you can give to God's work through your gifts. You may give online by visiting citychurchavl.org/give, you may use our "Text to Give" platform by texting the amount you'd like to give to: 84321, you may give through an automatic payment via your personal bank, or you may mail a check to the church: City Church, PO Box 1378, 28802.

